

Chapter 5

Service & Verification of Service

SERVICE CREDIT

Creditable service is earned for service as a judge, including prior service and military service, rounded to the nearest month. Current service only includes service for which contributions have been made by the member to retirement; therefore, credit is not earned if the member takes leave without pay, is placed on suspension, or serves in a temporary capacity.

Since the maximum retirement benefit is 70% of the final average compensation, the maximum service credit allowed is 20 years.

PRIOR SERVICE

Credit is allowed for service prior to the date the various courts became a part of the system, for example, County Courts - January 5, 1961, District and Supreme Courts - January 3, 1957. (See Section 24-701(3)).

MILITARY SERVICE

A member may be eligible for Military Service Credit if the following criteria are met:

1. Military service may be granted if an individual served as a judge prior to entering the military.
2. Service in the military must have occurred during a declared emergency which would also include having been drafted under a Federal mandatory draft law during a time of peace.
3. The member must have returned to employment as a judge, under this Retirement System, on or after December 12, 1994. Pursuant to 38 U.S.C., Chapter 43.

If the above criteria are met, a member may attain all the Military Service Credit at no charge to them.

We will require the following information before we can determine eligibility for Military Service Credit.

1. Verification of a judge's employment prior to entering the military
2. A notarized copy of the DD214 Honorable Separation papers.

VERIFICATION OF SERVICE AND SALARY

All service as a judge and the judge's salary for the high three years of service must be verified before retirement benefits can be determined OR a refund of the account can be made.

You should provide verification of service and salary once you have been notified by the judge of their termination or retirement. It is important this information be provided to our office in a timely manner.

All verifications must be signed in ink by an authorized reporting agent. Stamped, photocopied or typewritten signatures will not be accepted.

All service as a judge should be included on the verification form.

If, when completing a verification, you come across a situation you are not sure how to verify, please contact this office. We will be happy to assist you.

A separate form should be completed for each judge when actually verifying service and salary.